



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: BOOKBINDER, et al. )  
)  
Serial No: 09/447,077 ) Art Group Unit: 1762  
)  
Filing Date: 11/22/1999 ) Examiner: Wesley Markham  
)  
Title: METHODS FOR PROTECTING )  
SILICA-CONTAINING ARTICLE )  
AND INHIBITING BREAKS )  
DURING DRAWING OF OPTICAL )  
FIBER, AND SILICA-CONTAINING )  
ARTICLE PROTECTED AGAINST )  
BREAK-INDUCING )  
PARTICULATES )

#16

RECEIVED  
MAR 20 2003  
GROUP 1700

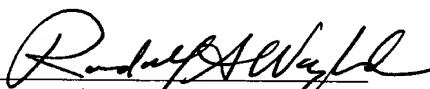
Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO RESPOND TO OFFICIAL ACTION**

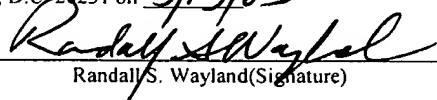
Applicants, through counsel, respectfully request a three (3) month extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), or such other extension of time as is necessary, to respond to the Office Action dated September 26, 2002, currently due. Please charge the fee of \$930.00, and any additional fees or surcharges necessary to make this response timely, to the deposit account of the undersigned corporation, Deposit Account No. 03-3325, and credit any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3/13/03

  
Attorney/Agent for Assignee  
Randall S. Wayland  
Reg. No.: 36,303  
Corning Incorporated  
SP-TI-3-1  
Corning, NY 14831  
607-974-0463

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8:** I hereby certify that this paper and any papers referred to herein are being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, as first class mail, postage prepaid, addressed to the Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 3/13/03

  
Randall S. Wayland (Signature)